



THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Year B

FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17

A reading from Exodus.

¹God spoke all these words,

²“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt,
out of the house of slavery;

³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴“You shall not make for yourself an idol,
whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above
or that is on the earth beneath
or that is in the water under the earth.

⁵You shall not bow down to them or serve them,
for I the LORD your God am a jealous God,
punishing children for the iniquity of parents
to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me

⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation
of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷“You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God,
for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses the divine name.

⁸“Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work.

¹⁰But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God;
you shall not do any work—
you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave,
your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns.

¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them,
but rested the seventh day;
therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²“Honor your father and your mother,
so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal. ▶

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house;
you shall not covet your neighbor's spouse,
male or female slave, ox, donkey,
or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

Word of God, word of life. *or* The word of the Lord.

PSALMODY: Psalm 19

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

A reading from First Corinthians.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing,
but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

¹⁹For it is written,
“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise?
Where is the scholar?
Where is the debater of this age?
Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

²¹For since, in the wisdom of God,
the world did not know God through wisdom,
God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation,
to save those who believe.

²²For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom,
²³but we proclaim Christ crucified,
a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles,
²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks,
Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom,
and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Word of God, word of life. *or* The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL: John 2:13-22

The holy gospel according to John.

¹³The Passover of the Jewish people was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves and the money changers seated at their tables.

¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, with the sheep and the cattle.

He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables.

¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves,

“Take these things out of here!

Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!”

¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written,

“Zeal for your house will consume me.”

¹⁸The Judeans then said to him,

“What sign can you show us for doing this?”

¹⁹Jesus answered them,

“Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”

²⁰The Judeans then said,

“This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?”

²¹But Jesus was speaking of the temple of his body.

²²After he was raised from the dead,

his disciples remembered that he had said this,

and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The gospel of the Lord.